



## CMC Vellore launches Centre for Excellence in Neurotechnology in collaboration with Vattikuti Foundation

**24<sup>th</sup> January 2026, Vellore, India:** In a significant step towards strengthening India's advanced neurological care and research ecosystem, the Vattikuti Foundation, in collaboration with Christian Medical College (CMC), Vellore, has launched the Centre of Advanced Neurotechnology at the CMC Vellore, Ranipet campus. The Centre marks the commissioning of an advanced MR guided Focused Ultrasound (MRgFUS) system, expanding to non-invasive treatment options for patients crippled with essential tremors and tremors in the patients suffering with Parkinson's disease.

The Vattikuti Foundation has donated an Insightec MR guided Focused Ultrasound system to CMC Vellore and will support the Centre's long-term growth and sustenance for the initial years, including developing new technology, training surgeons through Vattikuti Fellowship programmes and implementing the best practices and research in identifying new surgical targets. MRgFUS uses real time MRI to precisely neuromodulate known surgical targets without the need for anesthesia, incisions, implants, blood loss, or prolonged recovery despite old age. It offers a lower risk therapeutic alternative for patients who continue to suffer as they do not want to undergo surgical risk and cannot afford it. The launch addresses the growing burden of movement disorders in India, where an estimated four to ten million people are affected by tremors of different kinds and are dependent on medicines for the rest of their life.

Cost effective treatment and advanced research in a pursuit to improve the quality of life of these patients is the mission of the foundation. MRgFUS system offers expanding clinical and research opportunities across a wide range of neurological conditions, including the patients of epilepsy who are non-responsive to treatments, neuropathic and intractable pain, substance abuse and addictions, neuropsychiatric disorders such as depression and obsessive compulsive disorder, and supportive management of brain tumours. This collaboration with CMC Vellore was initiated because of CMC's 125 years of leadership and excellence in several areas in medicine including neurosciences, education, and research. Home to India's first neurosurgery department established by Dr Jacob Chandy, CMC Vellore brings over a century of clinical and academic excellence, serving patients across socio-economic backgrounds while providing a strong foundation to advance research and expand future treatment possibilities.

**Mr. Raj Vattikuti, Founding Chairman, Vattikuti Foundation**, said, *"True progress in healthcare comes when innovation reaches to the underprivileged. Through Vattikuti Foundation, we are committed to bringing advanced medical technologies to India in time and make it accessible to common men and positively impact the quality of life. where access is limited and possibilities are still evolving. In neuroscience and neuropsychiatric care, critical gaps remain, especially for patients who do not benefit from conventional therapies. By supporting centres like CMC Vellore, we aim to drive both developing best practices for India in the established treatment modalities and research that can*

*uncover new solutions, refine existing approaches, and broaden access to care that can genuinely change the quality of human life .”*

*“At Vattikuti Foundation, our focus has consistently been on advancing cost-effective care that is less invasive while creating lasting value for patients. The Centre of Advanced Neurotechnology at CMC Vellore reflects this mission, with a clear emphasis on non-invasive neurotherapeutic solutions and their long term clinical and research potential. Beyond enabling access to technology, our commitment is to embed innovation into clinical practice, advance research that expands future possibilities, and deliver meaningful impact at scale,” said **Dr. Mahendra Bhandari, CEO, Vattikuti Foundation.***

**Dr. Vikram Mathews, Director, CMC Vellore**, said, *“The Centre for Excellence in Neurotechnology strengthens CMC’s mission to integrate innovation with compassionate patient care, education, and research. We are grateful to the Vattikuti Foundation for their support in enabling this initiative.”*

Clinical focus at the Centre will initially include movement disorders such as Parkinson’s disease and essential tremors. While these represent current approved indications, experts noted that the technology holds wider promise for neurological care when supported by structured clinical research. The foundation launched a similar centre in 2025 at the Premier All India Institute of Medical Sciences New Delhi and hopes to synergize research efforts at both health care institutions in India. By anchoring the Centre at CMC Vellore, a nationally recognised referral and academic institution, the initiative aims to improve access to advanced neurotechnology for patients across the country, including those from non-metro and underserved regions, while playing a dual role in delivering patient care at scale and advancing neuroscience research.

The launch brought together senior clinicians, neurologists, neurosurgeons, radiologists, researchers, and leadership from CMC Vellore and the Vattikuti Foundation, who discussed the long term clinical, academic, and societal impact of non-invasive neurotechnology on India’s evolving neurological care landscape.

### **About Vattikuti Foundation**

Vattikuti Foundation was established in 1997 by Indian-American entrepreneur and philanthropist Raj Vattikuti and his wife, Padma Vattikuti. The Foundation’s mission is to advance and support the global adoption of robotic surgery. Robotic surgery offers significant advantages, including smaller incisions, reduced blood loss, expedited recovery times, and enhanced precision, particularly for soft tissue procedures, and joint replacements. Since 2010, the Foundation has played a pivotal role in catalysing the adoption of robotic surgery which has now grown to 200 hospitals across India, fostering a comprehensive ecosystem that includes the training of skilled surgeons to become accomplished robotic surgeons.

This transformative initiative has successfully made robotic surgery the standard of care in India, equipping a variety of hospitals—including those run by government, trusts, private, and corporate institutions—with advanced surgical capabilities. Under the leadership of Dr. Mahendra Bhandari, the Foundation’s CEO and Academic affiliate at the Vattikuti Urology Institute (VUI), Henry Ford Hospital, Michigan and Mount Sinai Medical Centre at Miami

Beach, the Foundation has trained over 500 robotic surgeons in India and is continuing to train more surgeons through its much-in-demand fellowship programmes. The Foundation's Flagship institute Vattikuti Urology Institute at the Henry Ford, Detroit is the birth place of robotic surgery and is credited with innovating and training almost all robotic surgery procedures in urology, globally.

For current and future activities conducted by Vattikuti Foundation to support improved patient outcomes in womens health and robotic surgery, visit [www.vattikutifoundation.com](http://www.vattikutifoundation.com)

### **About CMC Vellore**

**TOP-RANKED EDUCATIONAL, HEALTHCARE AND RESEARCH INSTITUTE IN INDIA**  
The Christian Medical College Vellore, located in Vellore, Tamil Nadu, is a 3,701-bed multi-speciality healthcare institution of international repute. CMC's primary, secondary, tertiary and quaternary-care hospitals are spread across the Vellore and Ranipet districts of Tamil Nadu and the Chittoor district of Andhra Pradesh. Together, we serve over 34 lakh patients every year, from around the country and South Asia, offering charitable subsidies of over Rs 400 crore. In the field of education, CMC Vellore has consistently been ranked #3 by the Ministry of Education, Government of India. Medical, Nursing and Allied Health education is offered at

CMC Vellore to over 3000 students every year, through 236 courses, at a fraction of the actual cost. Around 6010 students also benefit from Distance Education programmes. Research is a key focus with funds of over Rs 100 crore dedicated, every year, to finding locally relevant solutions to the pressing healthcare needs of today. Outreach is a central pillar of CMC's mission, with community health programmes covering local populations of around 5 lakh and a network of 170 partner hospitals bringing vital and affordable healthcare services to rural and marginalised communities across the country.

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